





# Idaho Justice Reinvestment Working Group

Third Meeting

October 31, 2013

**Council of State Governments Justice Center** 

Marc Pelka, Program Director Anne Bettesworth, Policy Analyst Ed Weckerly, Data Analyst Chenise Bonilla, Program Associate

#### Council of State Governments Justice Center

- National non-profit, non-partisan membership association of state government officials
- Engages members of all three branches of state government
- Justice Center provides practical, nonpartisan advice informed by the best available evidence



### Funding and partners

### **Justice Reinvestment**

a data-driven approach to reduce corrections spending and reinvest savings in strategies that can decrease recidivism and increase public safety.







### A data-driven "Idaho Solution" for increased public safety and cost-effectiveness

IN THE SENATE SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 128 BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

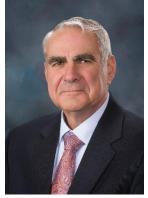
A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
STATING FINDINGS OF THE
LEGISLATURE AND AUTHORIZING
THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO
APPOINT A COMMITTEE TO
UNDERTAKE AND COMPLETE A
STUDY OF THE IDAHO CRIMINAL
JUSTICE SYSTEM.

Idaho Legislature enacts bipartisan resolution authorizing the establishment of an Interim Committee to undertake a study of the state's criminal justice system.



Governor Otter, Chief Justice Burdick, Senate Pres. Pro Tem Hill, and legislative leaders launch justice reinvestment





Legislative Interim Committee and Justice Reinvestment Working Group formed, both chaired by Senator Lodge and Representative Wills

"Our corrections system is consuming an increasing share of our budget. We have a simple choice to make: continue down this path, or use data to find a smarter way to protect the public and be better stewards of tax dollars."

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter

#### Justice Reinvestment Process – Phase I and II

#### Bipartisan, bicameral, inter-branch working group

#### Phase I

### **Analyze Data & Develop Policy Options**

- Analyze data; look at crime, courts, corrections, and supervision trends
- Solicit input from stakeholders
- Assess behavioral health system and treatment capacity
- Develop policy options and estimate cost savings

#### Phase 2

#### **Implement New Policies**

- Identify assistance needed to implement policies effectively
- Deploy targeted reinvestment strategies to increase public safety
- Track the impact of enacted policies/programs
- Monitor recidivism rates and other key measures

### Input gathered from across Idaho since last meeting

#### Numerous interactions with criminal justice system stakeholders in the past two months

- District Judges
- Department of Correction
- Chiefs of Police Association
- Prosecuting Attorneys Association
- Sheriffs' Association
- Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence
- Association of Counties
- Parole Commission Members & Hearing Officers

Interactive presentation with all the state's district judges

Nighttime ride-along with the Meridian Police Department

Statewide online survey of sheriffs and Bonneville County jail tour

Presentation to county commissioners at conference

Full day meeting with hearing officers and decision-makers

### Summary of Today's Presentation – The Big Picture

Idaho's incarceration rate is higher than states with similar crime rates, and is costly and unsustainable

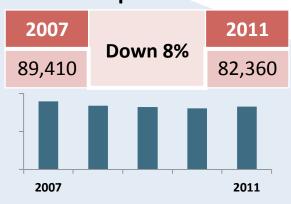
A revolving door of recidivism from supervision and diversion programs is costly and ineffective

Rates of recidivism could be lowered by increasing the use of best practices

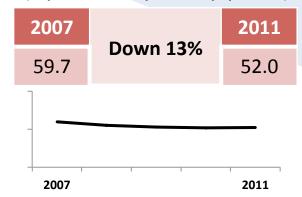
Sanctions for revocations are long and costly, and not tailored for supervision violation behavior

# Idaho's crime rate is low compared to the national rate and continuing to decline

#### **Total Reported Crimes**



### Total Crime Rate (Reported Crimes per 1,000 population)



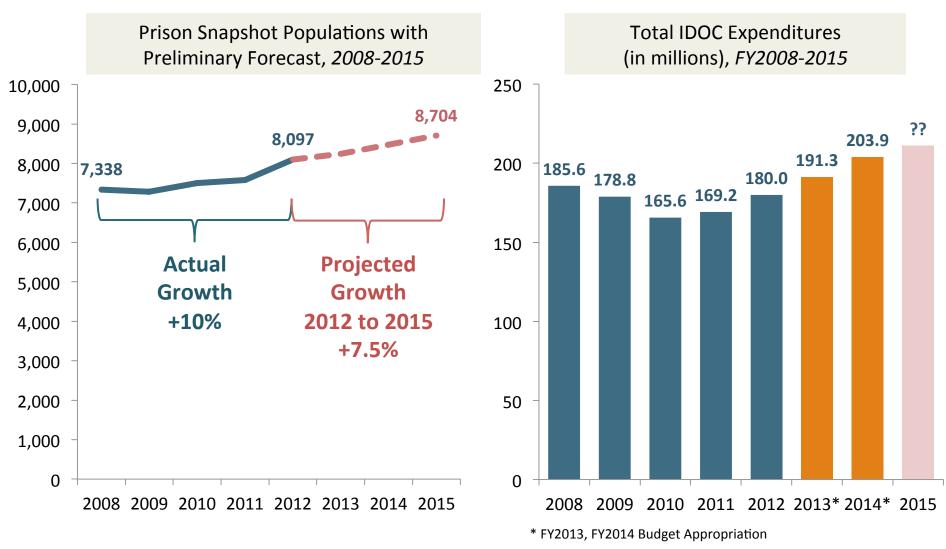
#### 2007-2011 Change

<b>Total Crimes Against Persons</b>	Down 15%
Murder/All Manslaughter*	<b>Down 44%</b>
Aggravated Assault	<b>Down 12%</b>
Simple Assault	<b>Down 12%</b>
All Sex Crimes	<b>Down 24%</b>
<b>Total Crimes Against Property</b>	Down 9%
Robbery	<b>Down 21%</b>
Larceny/Theft	Down 1%
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	Down 4%
<b>Destruction of Property</b>	<b>Down 19%</b>
Motor Vehicle Theft	Down 42%
Adult DUI Arrests	Down 16%

<sup>\*</sup>Small numbers – 30 to 50 per year

Source: Idaho State Police, Crime in Idaho 2011 and Idaho Statistical Analysis Center's Crime in Idaho online data tool.

### Corrections growth is projected to continue at great cost if left unaddressed

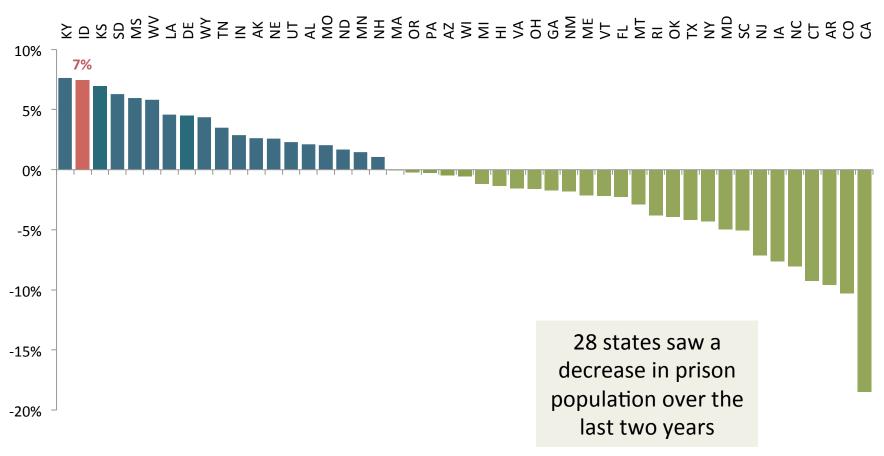


Prison total includes Term, Rider and Parole Violator inmates.

Source: IDOC Standard Reports, IDOC Preliminary Forecast, Idaho Legislative Budget Books, 2013 Lesgislative Fiscal Report.

# Prison percentage growth in Idaho has outpaced almost all other states in recent years

Prison Population Percentage Change, 2010-2012



Excludes 3 states with that did not report 2012 data

### Idaho's incarceration rate is higher than states with similar crime rates



Source: BJS, Prisoners in 2011 and FBI, Crime in the U.S. 2011.

#### **Presentation Overview**

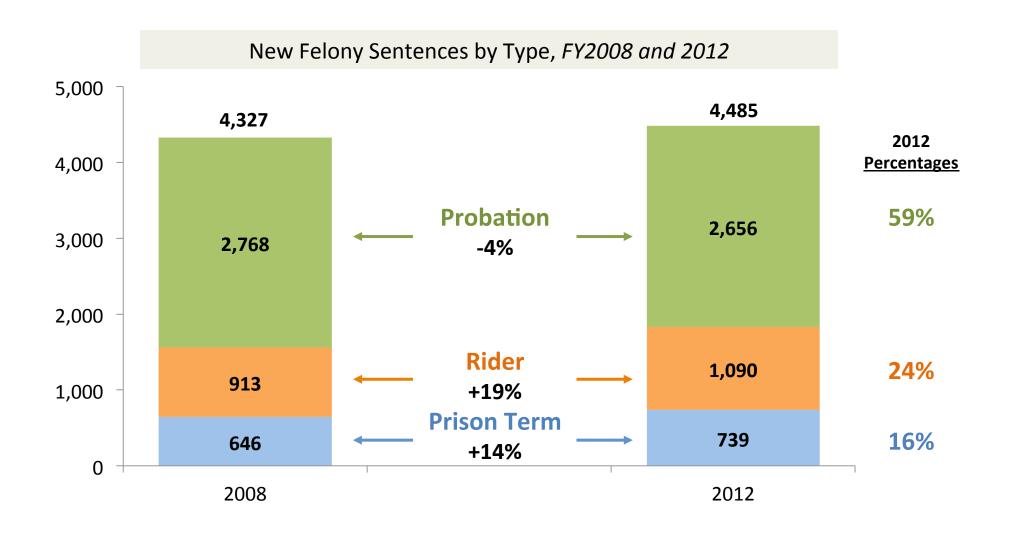


### Recidivism from supervision and diversion programs

How Idaho can lower recidivism by using best practices

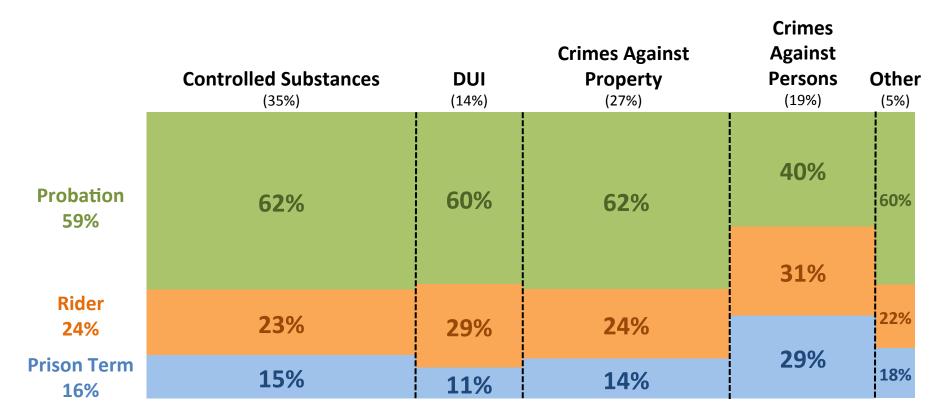
Long and costly sanctions for revocations

# Most felons are sentenced to probation and, increasingly, the Rider program



# Probation is used most often in property and drug offenses, and Rider or prison is more common in person crimes

New Felony Sentences by Type and Offense Type, FY2012 (N = 4,485)



### Use of Rider and prison varies by district, crime and alternative sentencing options



District 7 is recognized for offering a range of alternative sentencing options (Wood Pilot Project, other problem solving courts)

Judicial District	Distribution of New Felony Sentences, FY2008-12			
District	Probation	Rider	Term	
1	62%	27%	11%	
2	64%	26%	10%	
3	63%	20%	17%	
4	51%	29%	21%	
5	53%	33%	14%	
6	62%	25%	13%	
7	69%	18%	13%	
Total	62%	24%	15%	

District 4 also had a slightly larger proportion of Crimes Against Persons during this period

District 5 had a larger proportion of Controlled Substance offenses

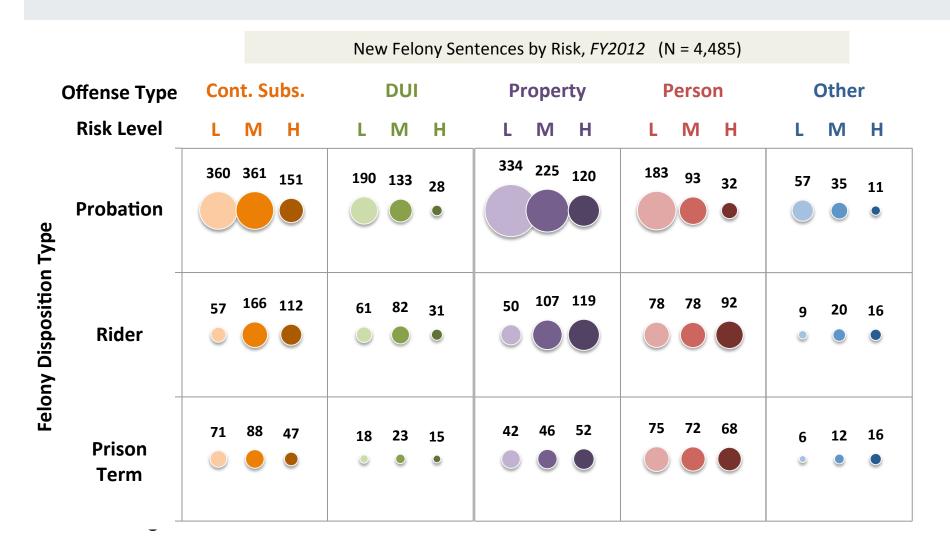
## Risk assessment guides decision-making in many parts in the the system

Decision-Making

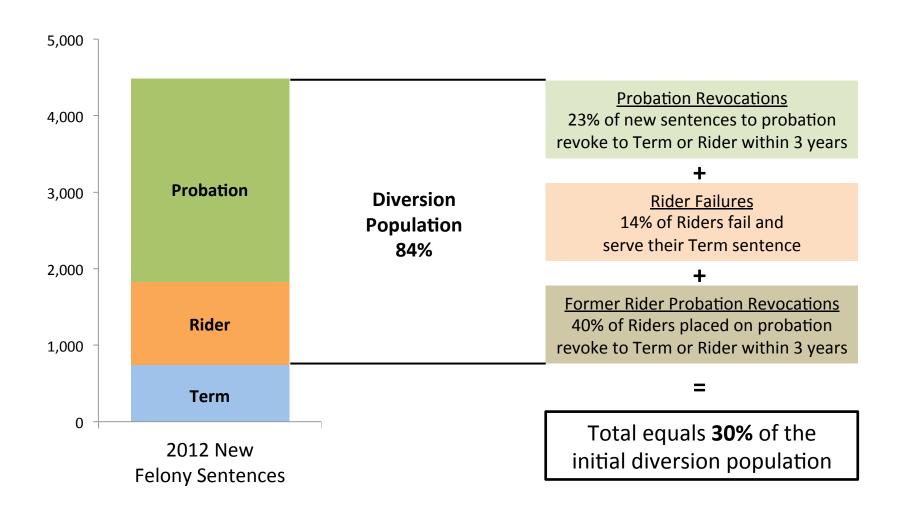
Program / Supervision Intensity

	Pretrial	Sentencing	Parole Release	PROBATION/ PAROLE	RIDER TRIO OF OPTIONS	Prison
Purpose	<ul><li>Failure to appear</li><li>Recidivism</li></ul>	<ul><li>Risk of recidivism</li><li>Program, Treatment</li></ul>	• Risk of recidivism	<ul><li>Supervision Intensity</li><li>Program, Treatment</li></ul>	• Program needs	• Program needs
USED IN IDAHO?	At least 5 Counties	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
GUIDANCE		Treatment - Yes	No Yes			
IN STATUTE OR POLICY	No	Admission Criteria - No		Yes	Yes	Yes
Tool(s) Used	• IPRAI • Other	• LSI • GAIN Core • TCU	<ul><li>LSI from prison intake</li></ul>	• LSI	• LSI • RDU • Assessments	• LSI

### Low-risk offenders are more likely to be placed on probation



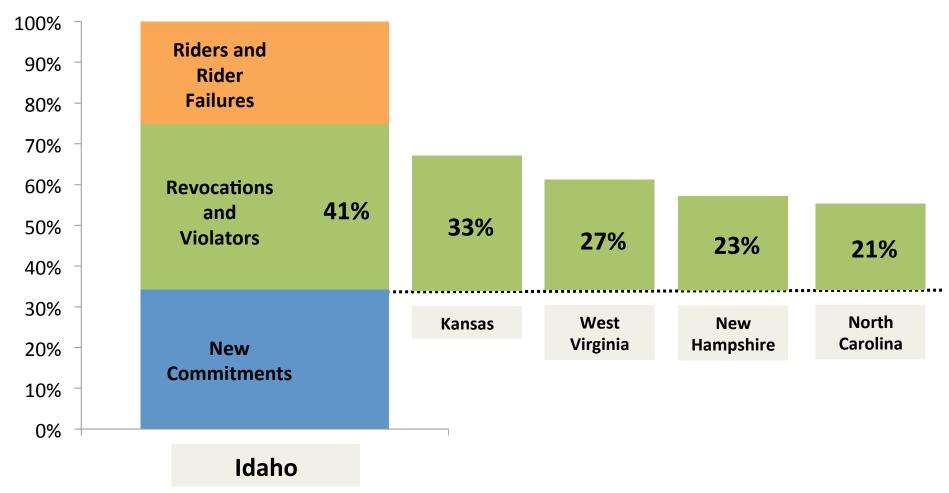
### 30 percent of initial diversions are later revoked to a prison term within three years



# Revocations and Riders account for 87% of prison admissions and 2/3 of the prison population

New Felony Sentences	Prison Admissions	Prison Population
84% Sentenced to Probation or Rider Initially	87% From Recidivism or New to Rider	66% From Recidivism or Rider
Probation	Revocations and Violators* 41%	Revocations and Violators* 41%
59% Rider 24%	New or Revoked to Rider and Failed Riders to Term 46%	New or Revoked to Rider and Failed Riders to Term 25%
Term 16%	New to Term 13%	New to Term 34%
2012	2012	2013

### Revocations take up a much smaller portion of prison beds in other states



Source: IDOC standard monthly reports and snapshot data. CSG Justice Center data from past Justice Reinvestment states.

#### Overview

Recidivism from supervision and diversion programs



How Idaho can lower recidivism by using best practices

Long and costly sanctions for revocations

### Judges want stronger supervision and more treatment resources



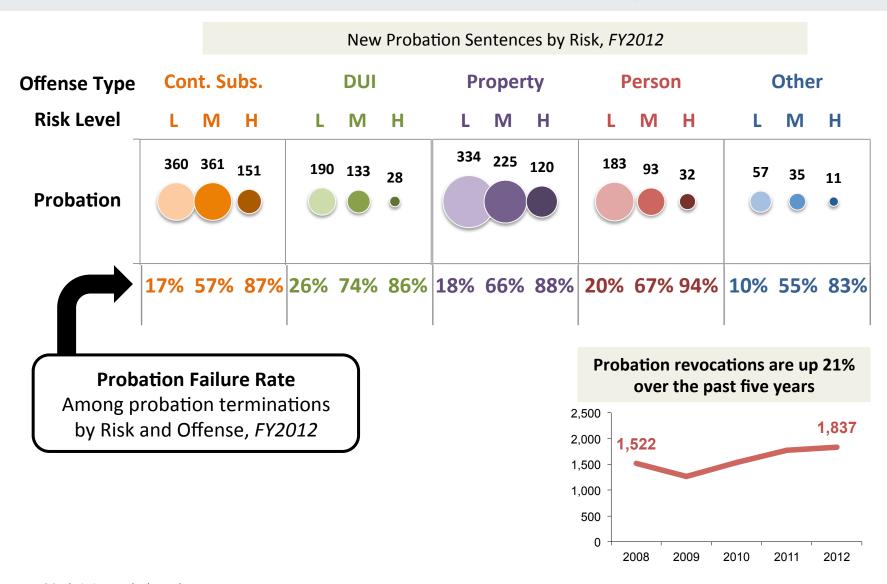
District judges surveyed recognized the critical importance of both quality community-based supervision, as well as programs and treatment, in lowering recidivism

Additional intensive probation supervision programs should be available

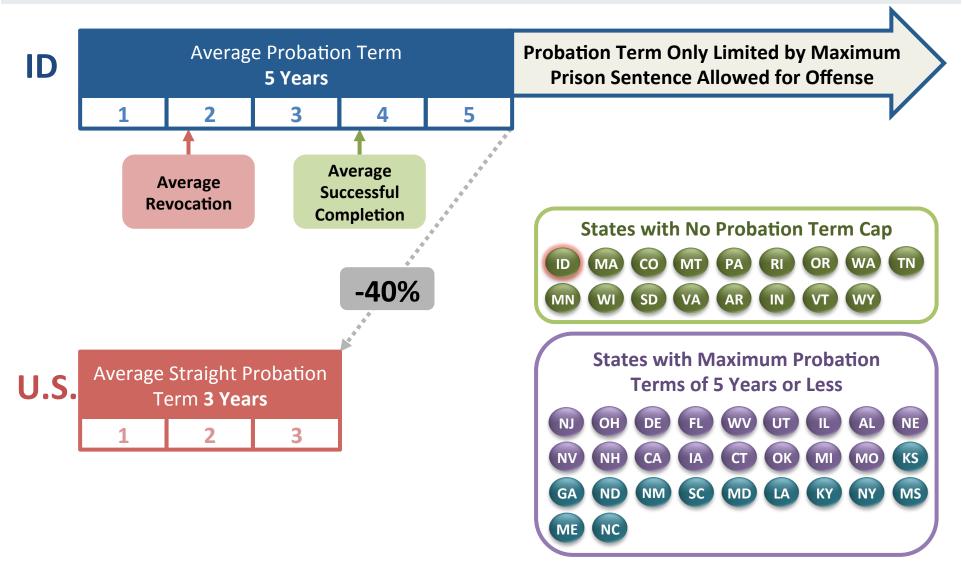
More resources should go to probation officers for supervision

Fund and staff more
Probation Officers for
adequate supervision in
appropriate ways

### Low-risk offenders usually succeed on probation, but high risk offenders are more often revoked from supervision



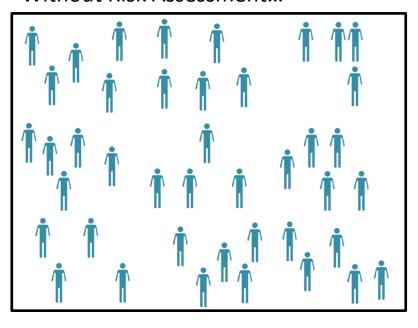
# Idaho among a minority of states not capping felony probation terms



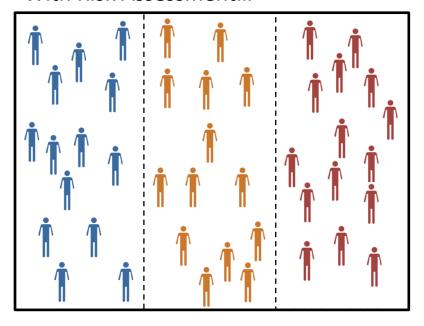
Source: IDOC admissions and release data, BJS, Felony Sentences in State Courts, 2006 – Statistical Tables.

# Idaho identifies and differentiates its supervision population based on risk of re-offending

#### Without Risk Assessment...



#### With Risk Assessment...



#### Risk of Re-offending

LOW MODERATE HIGH
10% 35% 70%
re-arrested re-arrested re-arrested

### Focusing a high-enough "dosage" on high-risk supervision population would yield better outcomes



Low

Supervision/Program Intensity

#### **Moderate**

Supervision/Program Intensity

#### High

Supervision/Program Intensity

# Continuum of responses available to supervision agencies to hold offenders accountable for behavior change

Responses to supervision compliance can reduce recidivism as much as or more than sanctions, when they are known ahead of time to the offender

On average, two sanctions were applied before a violation report was submitted by PPOs in 2013

Modify supervision level

Modify restrictiveness of conditions

Modify travel restrictions

Verbal praise

On average, less than two treatment interventions were applied before a violation report was submitted

Increase reporting requirements

Short Jail Stav

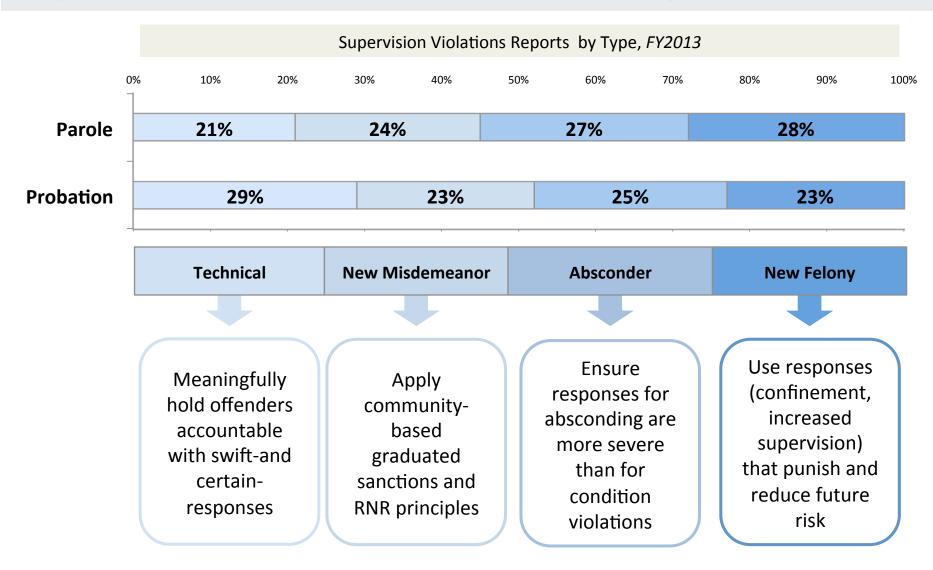
Problem solving courts

Institutional program

Revocation to prison

Most restrictive responses should be prioritized based on risk and seriousness of violation

# Reported violations present opportunities for effective responses to offender behavior while on supervision



Source: Probation and parole supervision violation reports ("Bubble Sheets"), FY2013

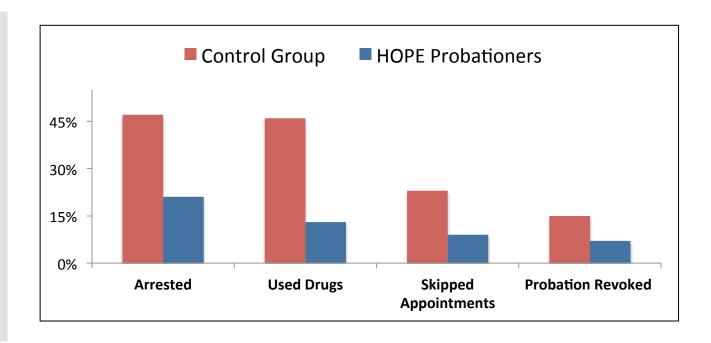
### Research, evaluation, and practice coalesce around effectiveness of swift-and-certain responses to supervision violations



In Honolulu, Judge Alm pioneered a probation program applying supervision, drug testing, and violation responses involving swift, certain, and brief jail sanctions.

NIJ evaluation showed significant reductions in key supervision outcome measures.

Research confirms the science behind HOPE: the swiftness of the timing of the response and the certainty that there will be a response impacts offender behavior to a greater degree than the length of the time behind bars.



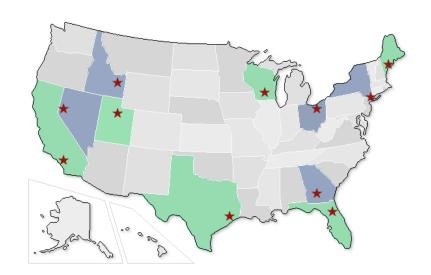
Source: NIJ Hawaii HOPE evaluation <a href="http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/229023.pdf">http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/229023.pdf</a>

### Idaho's Specialty Courts Are Highly Regarded on A National Level

#### **64** Problem Solving Courts:

- **24** Felony Drug Courts
- 11 Adult Mental Health Courts
- 1 Juvenile Mental Health Court
- 9 Misdemeanor/DUI Courts
- **4 DUI Courts**
- 8 Juvenile Drug Courts
- 4 Child Protection Drug Courts
- **3** Veterans Courts

Bonneville County Mental
Health Court is one of five
national sites chosen for peerto-peer learning due to
programmatic successes



The goal of specialty courts is to promote effective interaction and use of resources among the courts, justice system personnel and community agencies.

### States nationwide are adopting swift-and-certain responses in policy



At sentencing, judge may delegate authority to the supervising agency to impose a certain number of jail-bed days in response to violation of conditions of supervision



Supervision agencies then create graduatedsanction policies to ensure that this response is used fairly and reasonably to maximize potential for effective responses to violations.



In North Carolina, judges may allow for a maximum of 6 days per months for a total of 18 days. The maximum number of days of jail confinement may not exceed two- or three-day periods.

Numerous other states have established similar policies

Arkansas	New Hampshire
Georgia	Oregon
Louisiana	South Carolina
Missouri	Washington

Source:

# Discretionary Jail Time is used widely, but would benefit from clearer grounding in evidence-based practices

DJT is used only if ordered by the court as a special condition of probation

PPOs may use DJT as an intermediate response

No cap for DJT length or frequency appears in policy

Judges authorize the use of DJT in a majority of cases

88% of sheriffs indicated use of their jails beds for DJT

Length of jail sanctions range from 1 to 30 days

It is currently not used as a sanction for parole violators



Sheriffs reported variation in the use of DJT and requested greater consistency in policy

#### Overview

Recidivism from supervision and diversion programs

How Idaho can lower recidivism by using best practices



Long and costly sanctions for revocations

### Revocations to term are long and costly – because underlying sentence is imposed

X

X

#### **Probation Revocations to Term**

2012 probation revocations to Term **675** 

Average length of stay in Term for probation revocations

1.8 years

X per day \$53 Potential cost of revocations to Term \$23M

**Parole Revocations** 

2012 parole revocations **595** 

Average length of stay on Parole Violator and Term status

1.6 years

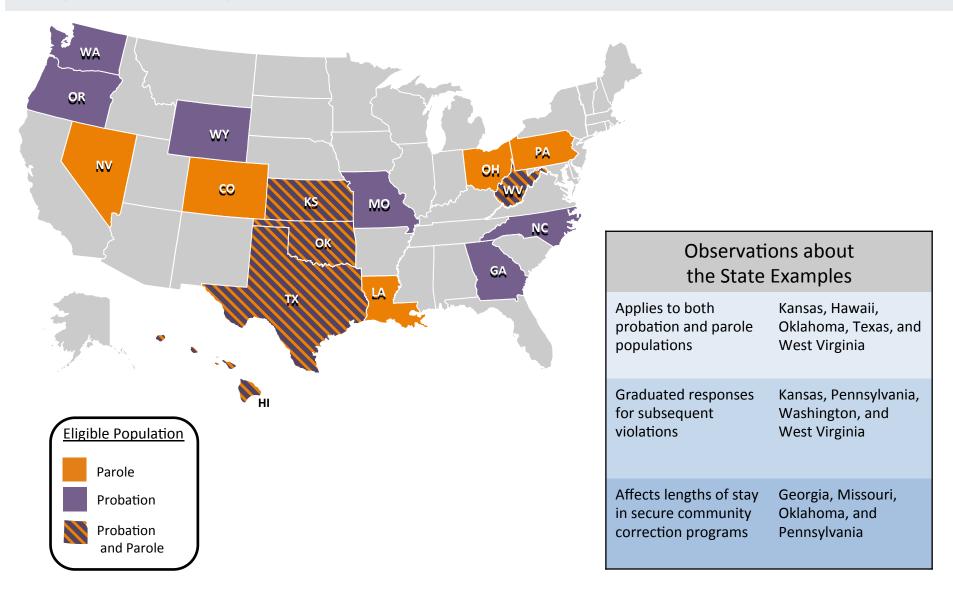
X per day \$53

=

Potential cost of revocations to Term \$18M

Potential cost of 2012 supervision revocations \$41M

### States are using tailored revocation terms to respond to supervision violations



# Idaho's sentencing statutes contain few stratifications within offense types

	Idaho Statute	Idaho 2012 Average Sentence	National Average Max	Idaho Statute Notes
Burglary	1 year fixed 10 year unified	2.6 to 7.9	4.75 years	Burglary with explosives 10-25. Entering a store with intent to shoplift constitutes burglary, regardless of value.
Grand Theft	1 year fixed 14 year unified	2.5 to 9.8	3.2 years	Felony threshold \$1000. Value does not matter if extortion, weapons, checks/credit cards, pickpocketing, etc. Theft also encompasses embezzlement and receiving stolen goods.



In Texas, felony theft is split into levels based on dollar amount or circumstance:

\$1,500-\$20K	State Jail felony	180 days to 2 years
\$20K-\$100K	3 <sup>rd</sup> Degree felony	2 to 10 years
\$100K-\$200K	2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree felony	2 to 20 years
>\$200K	1st Degree felony	5 to 99 years

Without built in stratifications proportionality, predictability and certainty of sentencing within offense types is hard to maintain

Source: IDOC admissions and release data, Idaho and Texas criminal codes, BJS, National Judicial Reporting Program Felony Sentences in State Courts, 2006.

### Widely ranging lengths of incarceration are tied to original offense

	Idaho Statute	Idaho 2012 Average Sentence	National Average Max	Idaho Statute Notes
Forgery	1 year fixed  14 year unified	2.0 to <b>8.6</b>	<b>3.75</b> years	No minimum dollar value specified, no misdemeanors.



#### Two People Revoked from Probation in 2012

- Both initially put on probation for Forgery
- Neither had prior DOC stays
- Both Low overall risk level

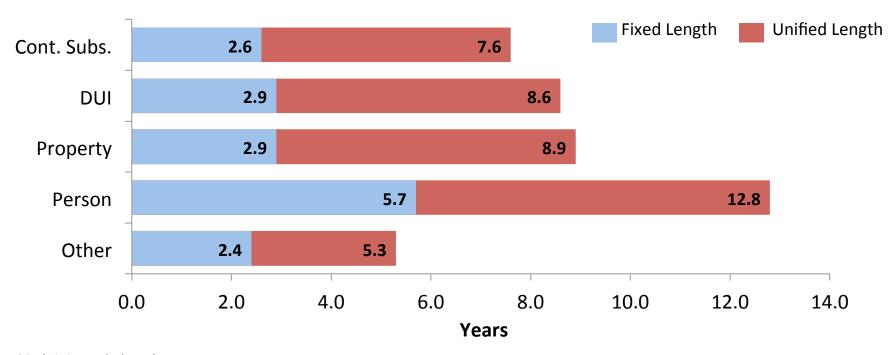


Source: IDOC admissions and release data, Idaho and Texas criminal codes, BJS, National Judicial Reporting Program Felony Sentences in State Courts, 2006.

### Lengthy discretionary parole release periods fall between fixed and unified sentences

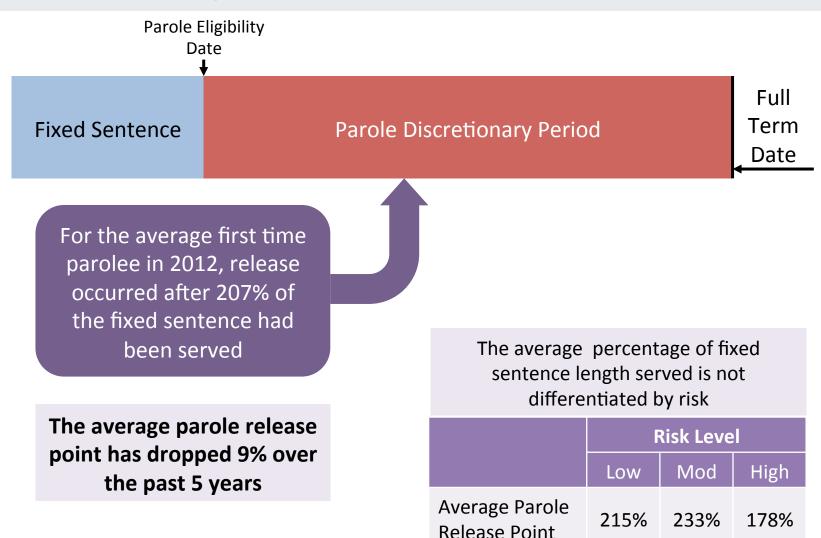
The average unified sentence to Term was 2.6 times longer than the fixed period, creating a long discretionary period for parole consideration

Average Fixed and Unified Sentence Lengths Among New by Offense Type, FY2012



Source: IDOC admissions and release data.

# The average parole release occurs well beyond the fixed sentence length

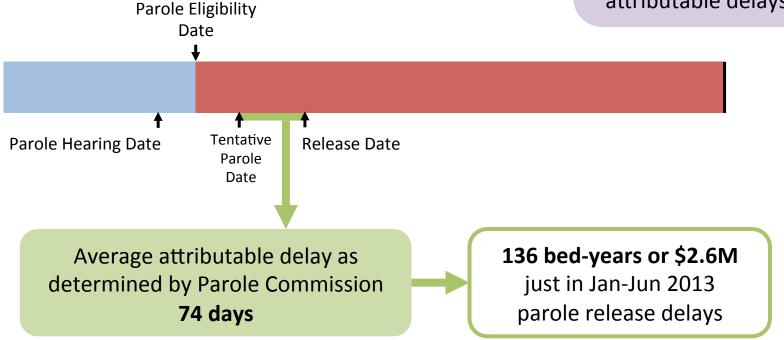


Source: IDOC admissions and release data.

### Delays in release following a parole approval may cost \$5 million in 2013 alone

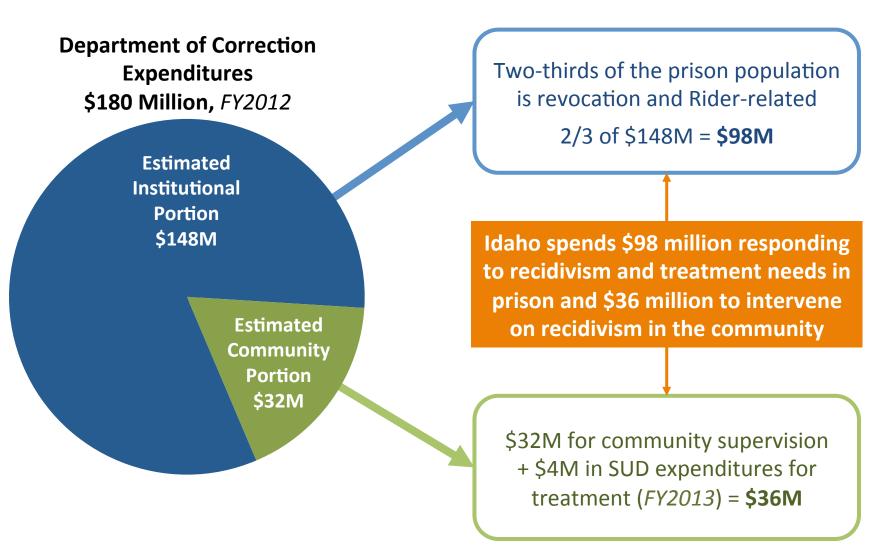
#### Jan-Jun 2013 Commission of Pardons and Paroles Log of Releases and Delays

673 total parole releases 475 with releases past Tentative Parole Date 389 with attributable days of delay Delay in Program
Entry or Completion
affected 64% of
those with
attributable delays



Source: Parole Commission release delay data.

# Spending focused on responding to recidivism not community-based intervention



Source: Fiscal Year 2014 Idaho Legislative Budget Book.

#### Summary of Today's Presentation – The Big Picture

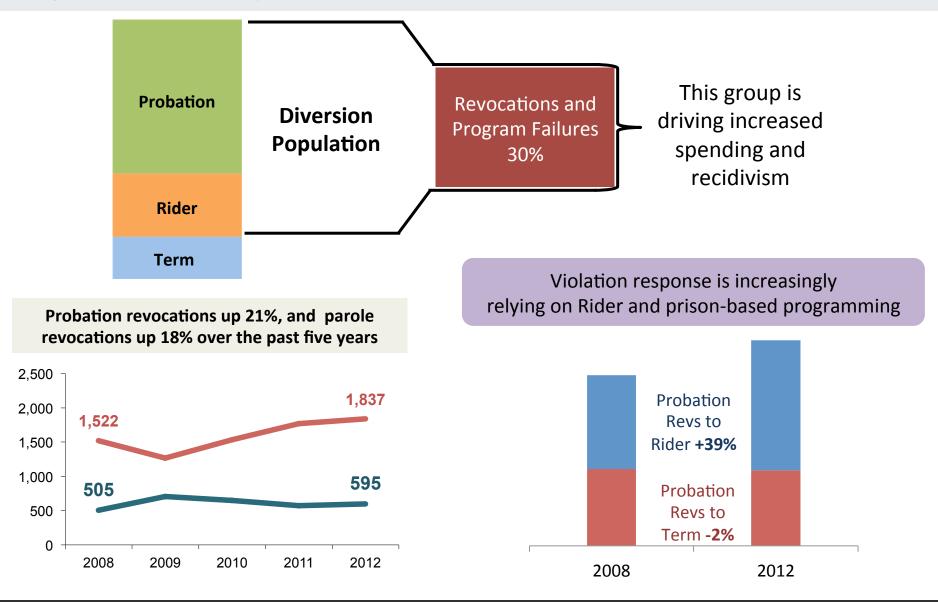
Idaho's incarceration rate is higher than states with similar crime rates, and is costly and unsustainable

A revolving door of recidivism from supervision and diversion programs is costly and ineffective

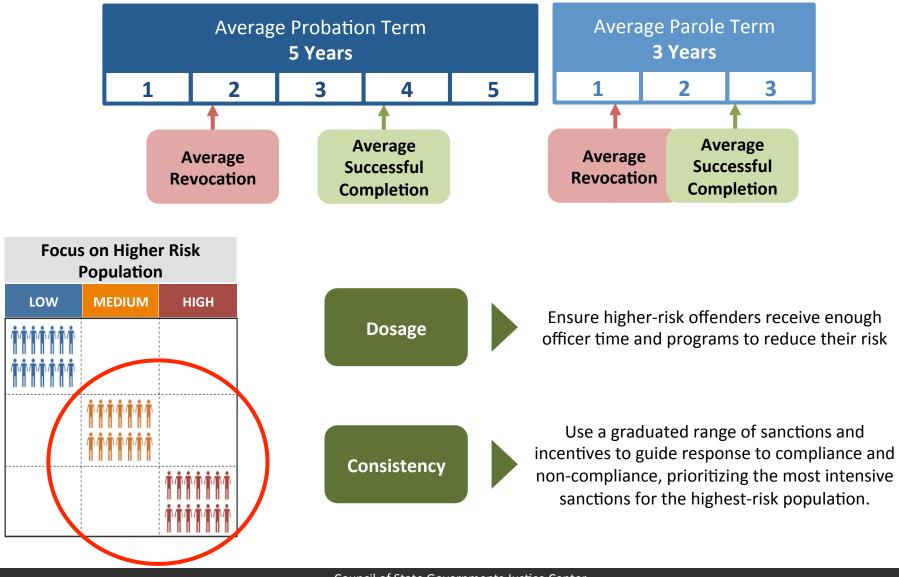
Rates of recidivism could be lowered by increasing the use of best practices

Sanctions for revocations are long and costly, and not tailored for supervision violation behavior

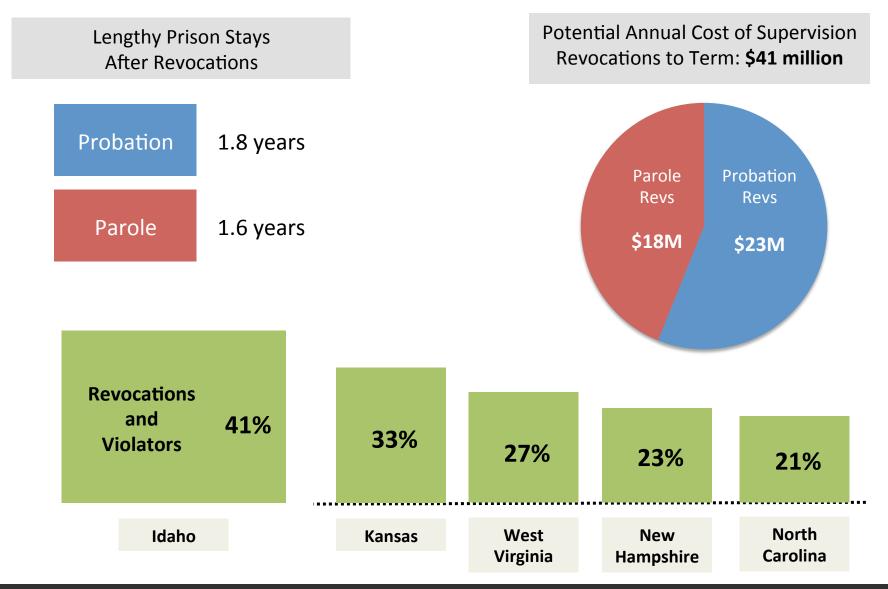
# A revolving door of recidivism from supervision and diversion programs is costly and ineffective



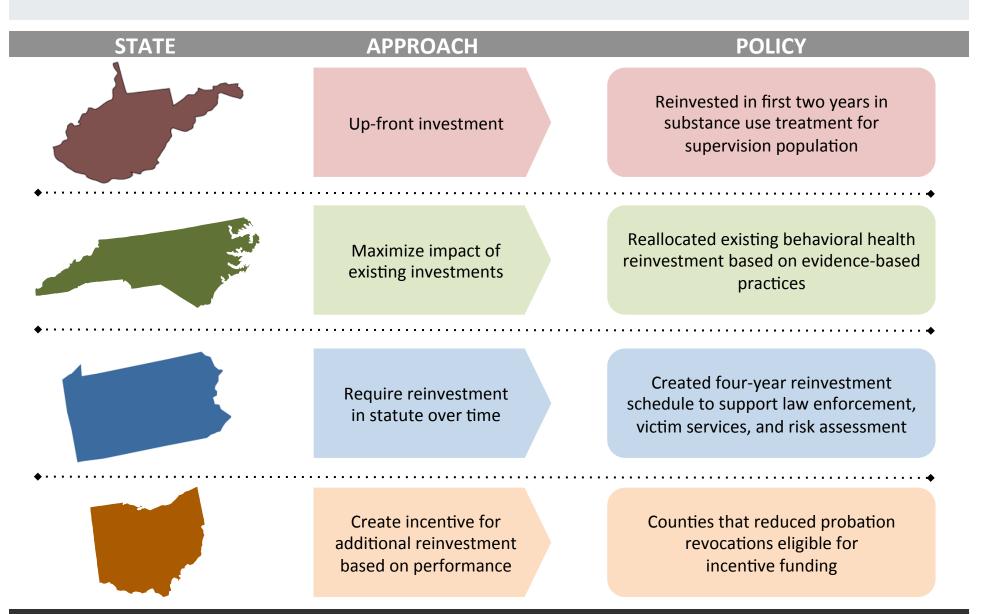
# Rates of recidivism could be lowered by increasing the adoption of best practices



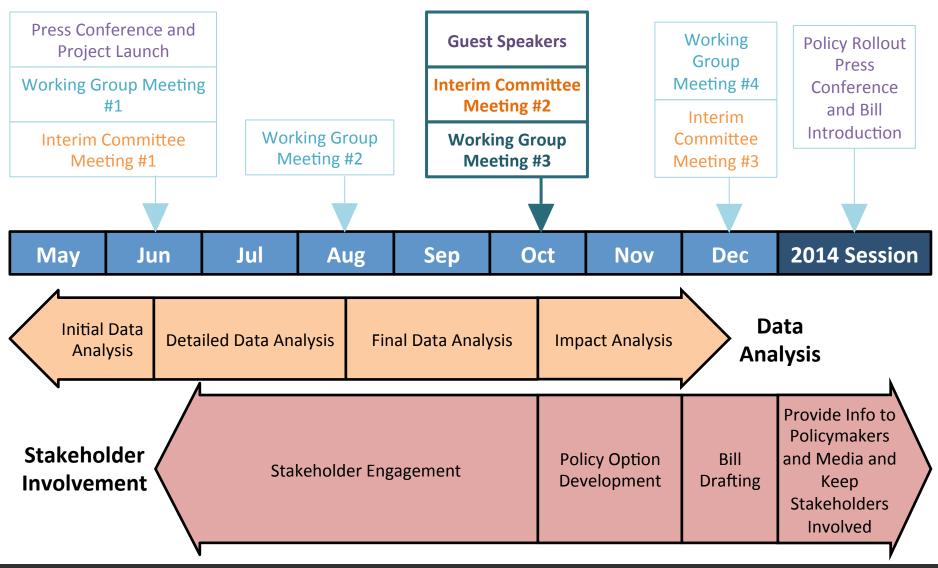
### Sanctions for revocations are long and costly, and not tailored for supervision violation behavior



#### Four principles of effective reinvestment



#### **Proposed Timeline**



#### **Thank You**



#### Anne Bettesworth, Policy Analyst abettesworth@csg.org



This material was prepared for the State of Idaho. The presentation was developed by members of the Council of State Governments Justice Center staff. Because presentations are not subject to the same rigorous review process as other printed materials, the statements made reflect the views of the authors, and should not be considered the official position of the Justice Center, the members of the Council of State Governments, or the funding agency supporting the work.

This project was supported by Grant No. 2010-RR-BX-K071 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.